

Message Text

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63

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /037 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6883
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU

UNCLAS BANGKOK 1022

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, TH

SUBJECT: KRIT SIWARA

AT A NEWS CONFERENCE HELD AT HIS HOME ON JANUARY 16 GENERAL
KRIT SIWARA, FORMER ROYAL THAI ARMY COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE WOULD NOT RUN AND THAT HE WOULD NOT
FORM A POLITICAL PARTY FOR THE APRIL 4 ELECTIONS. EMBASSY
TRANSMITS EXCERPT OF USIS TRANSLATION OF NEWS CONFERENCE
FOR INFORMATION OF DEPARTMENT.

BEGIN EXCERPT

REPORTER: IS THE REPORT TRUE THAT YOU WILL BE A CANDIDATE
STANDING FOR ELECTION IN THE NEW GENERAL ELECTION?

KRIT: THAT IS NOT AT ALL TRUE. I WILL NOT STAND FOR ELEC-
TION, NEITHER WILL I SET UP A POLITICAL PARTY.

REPORTER: WILL YOU JOIN OR SUPPORT ANY POLITICAL PARTY?

KRIT: SINCE I HAVE TOLD YOU ALREADY THAT I WILL NOT STA D
FOR ELECTION TO PARLIAMENT AND THAT I WILL NOT SET UP A
POLITICAL PARTY, THOSE TWO STATEMENTS SHOULD BE CLEAR
ENOUGH. WHEN I SAID IN THE PAST THAT I WOULD STAND
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FOR ELECTION NEXT TIME I MEANT I BELIEVED THAT IT WOULD BE

HELD IN ANOTHER THREE YEARS. NOW THAT PARLIAMENT HAS BEEN
DISSOLVED UNEXPECTEDLY, I AM NOT READY TO ENTER THE POLITICAL
ARENA YET.

REPORTER: DO YOU THINK THAT THE GENERAL ELECTION TO
BE HELD IN APRIL WILL BE ORDERLY AND THAT NO PROBLEMS
WILL BE FACED?

KRIT: I BELIEVE IT WILL BE ORDERLY, BECAUSE WHEN GENERAL
ELECTIONS WERE HELD IN THE PAST IT WAS SPECULATED THAT
THEY WOULD NOT BE ORDERLY, BUT THEY WERE ORDERLY EVERY
TIME. DURING THE TIME OF THE SANYA GOVERNMENT, IT WAS
SAID THAT THE GENERAL ELECTION PLANNED WOULD NOT BE HELD,
OR THAT IT WOULD NOT BE ORDERLY. BUT IT WAS VERY
ORDERLY AND HELD IN AN EXCELLENT MANNER. END EXCERPT.
MASTERS

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To: STATE
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